

REMARKS

No new matter has been added by any of the amended language with regard to new claims 38 - 73 above. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amended language for the claims.

As previously indicated in Amendment A (dated June 13, 2003 and received June 16, 2003 at the US PTO), the following is respectfully noted:

Support for new claims 38 – 44 comes from Figs. 1, 2, and 13 – 16, and line 43 of column 4 through line 38 of column 5, and lines 6 – 63 of column 8 of U.S. Patent No. 5,931,855.

Support for new claims 45 – 47 comes from Figs. 1, 2, 17, and 18, and line 43 of column 4 through line 38 of column 5, and line 64 of column 8 through line 10 of column 9 of U.S. Patent No. 5,931,855.

Support for new claims 48 – 54 comes from Figs. 9 – 11 and 13 – 16, and line 60 of column 6 through line 47 of column 7, and lines 6 – 63 of column 8 of U.S. Patent No. 5,931,855.

Support for new claims 55 – 57 comes from Figs. 9 – 11, 17, and 18, and line 60 of column 6 through line 47 of column 7, and line 64 of column 8 through line 10 of column 9 of U.S. Patent No. 5,931,855.

Support for new claim 58 comes from Figs. 1, 2, and 3, and line 43 of column 4 through line 45 of column 5 of U.S. Patent No. 5,931,855.

Support for new claim 59 comes from Figs. 3 and 9 -11, and lines 39 – 45 of column 5, and line 60 of column 6 through line 47 of column 7 of U.S. Patent No. 5,931,855.

Support for new claims 60 – 65 comes from Fig. 12, and line 47 of column 7 through line 5 of column 8 of U.S. Patent No. 5,931,855.

Support for new claims 66 – 73 comes from Figs. 13 - 16 of column 8 of U.S. Patent No. 5,931,855.

CONSENT OF ASSIGNEE and SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION

These were enclosed with Amendment A (dated June 13, 2003 and received June 16, 2003 at the US PTO).

CONCLUSIONS

By the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance and respectfully solicits official notification of allowance from the Examiner.

If a minor issue remains outstanding after the Examiner has studied the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney so that any such matter may be resolved and the application be placed in condition for allowance without the necessity for an Official Action.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Although a \$618.00 check was enclosed for the claim fee with the prior Amendment A (dated June 13, 2003 and received June 16, 2003 at the USPTO) and it is believed that no further fee is due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies of payment associated with this Communication, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4365.

Respectfully submitted,

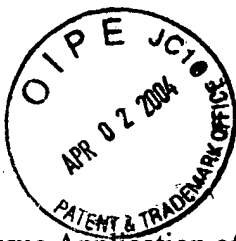
Moore & Van Allen PLLC

Date: March 31, 2004

By: 

Jennifer L. Skord
Registration Number: 30,687
Moore & Van Allen, PLLC
2200 West Main Street, Suite 800
Durham, NC 27705
Telephone: 919-286-8000

JLS/js



In re Reissue Application of: Buncke, Harry J.
Reissue Application No.: 09/919,750
Filed: July 31, 2001
For: Surgical Methods Using One-Way Suture

Docket No.: 013341.000003
Art Unit: 3731
Examiner: Jackson, Gary

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

MAILING



deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient Postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

FACSIMILE



transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, at 703-308-6916.

Signature:

Catherine L. Efland

Catherine L. Efland

(Name of person certifying)

Date: March 31, 2004

RECEIVED
APR 07 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700